



FACT SHEET

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U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

Mission Area Overview:

Project Manager – Chemical Stockpile Elimination

What was the Project Manager for Chemical Stockpile Elimination (PM-CSE)?

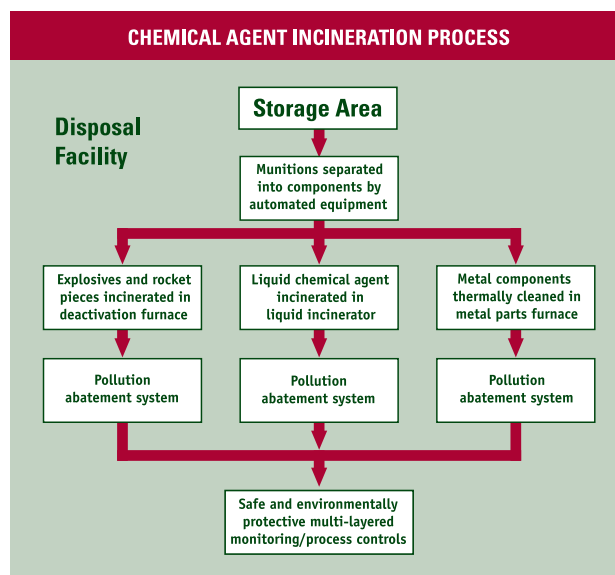
PM-CSE, an acquisition PM, was responsible for the safe destruction of the Nation's unitary chemical agents and weapons, using incineration and neutralization destruction technologies.

The PM-CSE mission fell under the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA). CMA's mission was to protect, safely store and destroy the aging chemical weapons stockpile. Its mission now is to protect and safely store the aging chemical weapons at the two remaining stockpile sites in Kentucky and Colorado, and to safely assess and destroy recovered chemical agent materiel.

Why did CSE use incineration?

The Army selected incineration as the preferred chemical weapons disposal technology in 1985, based on rigorous tests and comparisons of various technologies. The Army found incineration technology to be the safest and most efficient method to treat and dispose of various types of chemical weapons including chemical agents, explosives and metal parts. The process has been tested and used successfully in the chemical weapons disposal missions since 1979, and endorsed by the National Research Council and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Army built its first full-scale incineration facility, known as Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, on Johnston Atoll located in the Pacific Ocean, southwest of Hawaii. It successfully completed its mission in November 2000—safely destroying six percent of the U.S. stockpile stored at the atoll—and was returned to its natural state as a coral reef habitat. Another incineration site, at Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark., completed destruction of its stockpile in November 2010. The Pine Bluff stockpile comprised 12 percent of the original U.S. stockpile. The latest incineration sites to complete destruction missions included Anniston



Army Depot, Ala., in September 2011, followed by Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore., in October 2011. The Anniston stockpile comprised seven percent of the original U.S. stockpile, while Umatilla had 12 percent. The final location to complete destruction operations in the United States using incineration was Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah. Utah's stockpile was eliminated in January 2012, marking destruction of 44 percent of the Nation's original stockpile.

Why did CSE use neutralization?

After extensive research for technologies other than incineration that could possibly be used to destroy chemical agent, the Army chose four viable alternative technologies for examination. One of the technologies was neutralization. Three independent groups reviewed each technology to determine which could destroy the bulk agent stockpile while meeting all of the legal and regulatory requirements for safety, environmental protection and cost effectiveness. The three groups, as well as the Citizens' Advisory Commissions for Maryland and Indiana, recommended neutralization technology as the best alternative process.

For more information, contact the CMA Public Affairs Office at (410) 436-3629 (800) 488-0648

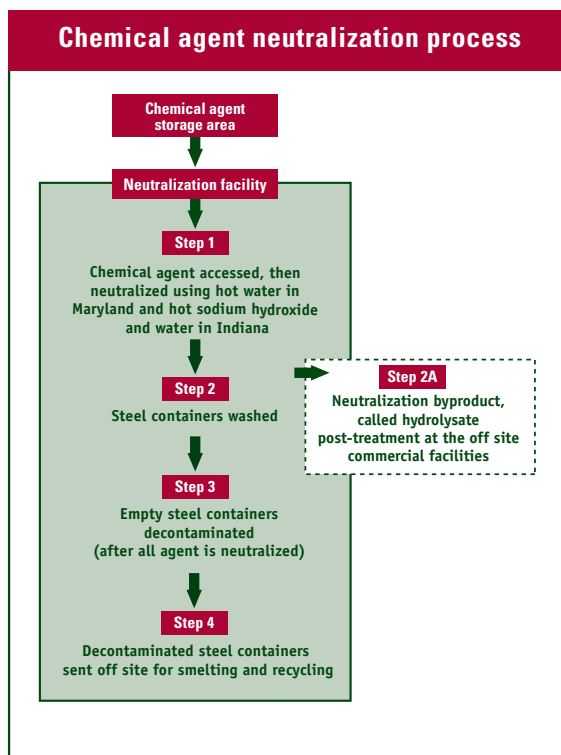
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Mission Area Overview: *Project Manager – Chemical Stockpile Elimination* (continued)



Both sites successfully completed stockpile disposal, in 2005 and 2008 respectively, using neutralization.

What has been destroyed?

- Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System in the Pacific Ocean had 6 percent of the original stockpile and completed its disposal mission in 2000, destroying nerve agents GB, VX and HD blister agent and munitions. The facility is now closed.
- Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Maryland had 5 percent of the Nation's original stockpile; all of it was blister agent HD in bulk containers. It completed its disposal mission in 2005 and is now closed.
- Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Indiana had 4 percent of the Nation's original stockpile: all of it nerve agent VX in bulk containers. It completed elimination of its stockpile in 2008 and is now closed.
- Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Arkansas had 12 percent of the original

stockpile and destroyed all of its GB and VX nerve agent and munitions, as well as all of its HD and HT blister agents and munitions. It completed its disposal mission in 2010 and is currently in closure operations.

- Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Alabama had 7 percent of the Nation's original stockpile and destroyed all of its GB and VX nerve agents as well as its HD and HT blister agents and munitions. It completed disposal in 2011 and is currently in closure operations.
- Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Oregon had 12 percent of the original stockpile and destroyed all of its GB and VX nerve agents and munitions, as well as HD blister agent and munitions. It completed disposal in 2011, and is currently in closure operations.
- Deseret Chemical Depot in Utah had 44 percent of the original U.S. stockpile and destroyed all of its GB and VX nerve agents and munitions, HD and HT blister agents and munitions as well as all H, GA and L agents and munitions. This mission ended in 2012, and the site is now in closure operations.

Who else was involved in stockpile elimination operations?

The PM-CSE, headquartered at the Edgewood area of the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., comprised thousands of military, civilian and contract workers dedicated to ensuring the project's success. PM-CSE worked with many state and federal oversight agencies including Congress, Department of Defense, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Research Council, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. PM-CSE also worked with local and state regulators and nearby communities to ensure the safety of the workers, the public and the environment.

How can I learn more?

Learn more about the PM-CSE mission by visiting the CMA website at www.cma.army.mil.